GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3827
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2008
SHORTAGE OF DRINKING WATER
Gohain Shri Rajen

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Assam faces acute shortage of drinking water despite being on the bank of the Brahmaputra which is a perennial river;

(b) if so, whether the Government has formulated any scheme for supply of water from Brahmaputra river after purification; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES(SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) The Government of Assam has informed that although Assam faces shortage of drinking water, the habitations are provided with drinking water facilities with under ground sources and surfaces sources schemes from river Brahmaputra and Barak and its tributaries.

(b) & (c) Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Drinking Water Supply) has informed that rural drinking water supply is a state subject and state governments are primarily responsible to provide drinking water facilities to the rural areas and to supplement the efforts of the state governments, the Department of Drinking Water Supply is providing financial assistance and technical support to the state governments through a centrally sponsored scheme, Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission. Department of Drinking Water Supply has further informed that the state governments are competent to plan, sanction and implement rural water supply schemes from the funds provided under ARWSP.